

# INDIANS ARE GOOD SOLDIERS; USE THEM TO GUARD BORDER

(BY H. S. H.)

## A City Of Big Ideas.

LOOKING forward to the possibility that the United States may very soon need a large army, Edward E. Ayer, a pioneer of the southwest, an authority on Indian life and history and a man of wide education and observation has recommended the enlistment of at least 10 regiments of Indians for border patrol duty, releasing an equal number of white regiments for duty elsewhere as occasion arose.

Last year Mr. Ayer recommended to secretary of the interior Lane, whose department is the bureau of Indian affairs, that rifle ranges be provided at each of the prominent Indian schools for the purpose of supplementing military drill with proper rifle practice. His idea was that if the Indians were ever needed in time of war they could thus enter the federal service as qualified riflemen. His present suggestion, looking forward to the enlistment of the Indians, is a further step.

From his own wide experience in the government's military service in 1861-4 in Indian campaigning, Mr. Ayer became very much impressed with the idea that the Indian has a good character out of which to fashion a soldier in that he is loyal, brave, truthful and physically vigorous. It is his belief also that if Indians were offered the same pay as white soldiers, provided with mounts with plenty of bright trappings and equipped with uniforms which pleased their eyes, there would be no difficulty whatever in raising as many regiments as he has suggested, and he would place the recruiting in the hands of reservation agents, men of high character and discretion, who know the Indians well and have their confidence.

Mr. Ayer's idea is attractive and it will doubtless be given the proper consideration by the war department. The Indians would make ideal soldiers, especially for this border country which is home to the southwestern Indians. Living conditions on the plains and in the mountains are perfectly familiar to them. The so-called desolation of the Big Bend district would have no terrors. Moreover, any engagements they might be called upon to wage with border bandits or marauders of any description would be under conditions in which they would give the best possible account of themselves.

Indians make first class private soldiers under competent leadership. They proved that in Cuba, in utterly alien surroundings and amid all the confusion which marked that not very well managed expedition. The Indian company in the Arizona national guard is one of the very best in the regiment. The Indian battalion of the United States Indian school at Phoenix has taken many prizes for excellence in drill and the veteran Apache scouts with Gen. Pershing in Mexico proved themselves quite as valuable, insofar as their opportunities extended as did they and their companion scouts in the days of the Geronimo campaign.

They are brave. They like a fight—like nothing better, in fact. They are amenable to discipline, especially under commanders who treat them well. They are past masters by nature in guerrilla warfare. And they have very great endurance. That is one of their best military assets. The writer, who has lived in close contact with various tribes of Arizona Indians for the greater part of 24 years, has seen sturdy young Indians, even after years spent in the changed conditions of the schools which might be supposed to be physically weakening, dog-trot for hour after hour through sand and over rocks in summer and winter alike. Twenty-five miles a day of marching under pack would be little more than a stroll to men of a race whose women think nothing of walking barefoot over 15 miles of blistering sand with a bundle on top of the head and a 25 pound infant on the back.

Regiments such as are proposed would have to have white officers of the line as well as the staff. There must be some exceptions. There are Indians right now in Arizona and New Mexico who are as well qualified for lieutenantcies as some of the better of the national guard lieutenants and there is a Carlisle graduate, apparently a full blood, who has risen to a captain's commission in the British forces in France. Generally speaking, however, the Indians would not be available for promotions above sergeants. All first sergeants must be Indians, for those who have risen to that rank in the government schools not only make good drillmasters but also make an excellent buffer, so to speak, between the company and the white officers.

This idea of Mr. Ayer's is based on a sound knowledge of the Indians. It is far from impractical and if the need for men arises, it is well worth a trial.

El Paso is becoming more and more a city of big ideas brought to fulfillment. Large public undertakings are being carried to completion so constantly now as not to excite comment. Public spirited citizens have made possible a \$100,000 Y. W. C. A. building. They have added 2500 members to the local branch of the American Red Cross society. They have been raising a large budget fund for the chamber of commerce and have increased the membership of that organization to 1000 members. Consider all this in addition to the \$700,000 courthouse and the \$500,000 high school, the entertainment of a number of important conventions and cooperation with the government in providing accommodations and otherwise caring for an army of soldiers here. One then comprehends better the big ideas which El Paso has brought to realization and is continuing to do.

Accomplishing worth while things gives confidence in ability to do still more, just as exercise develops a youth's muscles and adds to his strength. El Paso is now the youth, gaining strength, ability and confidence in that ability with every day that passes. Thus it is that the city will continue to grow and growing, to attempt still larger things.

It is for that reason then that the chamber of commerce, which has a hand in nearly every large movement undertaken here and initiates many, should be given the support of the entire citizenship in order that it may be still further strengthened and be able to do more than it has thus far been able to accomplish. That is the significance back of the recent 1000 membership movement.

In some places the entire community's support is thrown to the chamber of commerce by making it completely a public institution, financed through sharing in revenues from taxation just as do the schools and the various public offices and departments. That plan makes certain that every one gives his money support to the chamber of commerce in proportion as he pays taxes, but it does not bring in the personal element. It does not carry with it the personal interest which is evidenced when a man voluntarily joins the chamber of commerce and pays his share of the membership charge, mentally determining to have a part in the activities of the organization over and beyond what his few dollars create of themselves.

## Where Pacifism Ends

Henry Ford, the opponent of war, the proponent of peace, the author of "Out of the Trenches by Christmas" and of the peace delegation to Europe; the man who fought the preparedness agitation and used some of his wealth to advertise against it; this same Mr. Ford has shown himself in a much more pleasing light.

Mr. Ford has offered to the government, in the event of war, the use of his factories without profit to himself. The Ford plants would be of such great use to the country in quickly preparing for war that the offer was accepted at once. It was suspected that Mr. Ford's pacifism knew no limits. His own utterances almost justified one in hastening to that conclusion. His late offer has made us wiser, however. He evidently does not believe in peace at any price or in pacifism at the price of patriotism. Some quite harsh remarks were made in various newspapers concerning Mr. Ford's opposition to preparedness. Now is afforded a chance to say a good word for him.

Mr. Ford's opposition to preparedness was ill advised. Were the United States prepared for war, it would have far less need for his factories and scores of others than it will have if we are forced to prepare in a desperate hurry. But since we have no preparedness, Mr. Ford has made the best offer possible. And there is reason to believe that if Mr. Ford were furnished specifications for machine guns, for instance, he could and would turn them out at a marvelous rate.

Raise roses in the front yard and onions in the back yard to ensure plenty of fragrance about the home.

There have been so many Overt Acts that the public has long since lost count of them.

## Little Interviews

### Mayor Says Scenic Drive Will Be Reality Soon German Empire May Fall; U. S. Germans Loyal

WHILE all the differences have not yet been solved, it looks very much like we will get together on some basis that will prove satisfactory to the city, the public and the property owners regarding the route of the proposed scenic drive," said Mayor Tom Lea. "I had a conference with D. Stora Friday evening regarding the proposed route and I believe that it is the question of but a short time until a satisfactory agreement is reached."

"I have always favored the scenic drive, and it has been one of my ambitions to have the proposed drive mapped out before I leave office. I am confident that it will be established sometime this summer. The two fractional blocks the city desires for the route will be secured on option within the next few days."

"When this highway is established it will be properly illuminated and will also be a scenic drive. It is the scenic value of any city in the country. Not only will it be a scenic drive for motorists but will be a promenade for pedestrians. The park will prove a popular look during the hot afternoons for mothers with their children. It will also be an ideal place of recreation during the evening hours for the business men, workmen, working girls and others who desire to spend a few hours in a cool place."

"Germany will be the next European enemy to follow Russia in throwing off the rule of emperors and kings," said James G. Dillon. "The people of Germany are becoming tired of Prussian military rule. The German people are a thrifty race. Both the men and women work hard and the Kaiser who thrones the country was and the people are tired of it. If there is war with Germany there will be thousands of German-Americans who will stand by the Stars and Stripes of course. The Germans love their native land and it would be hard for them to take up arms against it. But there are few who will attempt to injure Americans."

"There have been few enough boys from El Paso represented in the national guard that El Paso gave it to company K, fourth Texas infantry, to give its men a fitting reception when they return here Sunday," said A. P. Colles, chairman of the military committee of the chamber of commerce. "We should do all we can for joining the services and the chamber of commerce is willing to do its share."

## Change of Work

WE DO the same things, day by day; and now and then we rise and say, "Oh, ches, for something else to do, some other calling to pursue!" Sometimes I think I'd like to try the doctor's job, and help folks die. Some I see the banker stand with untold wealth in either hand, and wish that I might have his task, and on a pile of greenbacks back. When I behold the merchant prince, I feel the soul within me. It's hard to think that I must strive at my station to keep alive, while he rules o'er a hive of trade, where every brand of wealth is made. But when I walk around the block, and meet the good old village dog, I notice that his face is sad, as glum as any in the grad. The banker's hair, above the ears, is white, although he's young in years; his face is drawn with haggard lines, as though he worries and repines. The merchant prince has said to me he never is from trouble free, and often, with a spirit sore, the whole night long he'll walk the floor. So, peradventure and mayhap, I'm after all a lucky chap.

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WALT MASON.

"The boys sacrificed a great deal to go into military service when they were needed and they should be given a hearty welcome by every citizen of El Paso."

"Everything depends on grand old Michael, of Russia, whether Russia will be thrown into the greatest and bloodiest revolution in the history of the world," said Dr. C. Young, of El Paso, a native of Russia. "He can establish a constitutional monarchy in Russia; the nation can be saved. A republic can never enter in Russia. It must have a monarchical form of government."

"With the coming of summer the number of men applying to us for food and lodging is dropping off," said J. H. Hines, general secretary of the Associated Charities. "But as the men drop off the summer burden of help for the sick and mothers will increase. I will promise a big campaign this summer for the poor babies of El Paso—a campaign of pure milk, medical aid, and fresh air."

## Bedtime Story For the Little Ones

UNCLE WIGGLY AND THE BLUE JAY.

By HOWARD R. GARRIS.

"WELL, well!" exclaimed Uncle Wiggly Longears, the rabbit gentleman, as he stood on the front porch of his hollow stump bungalow, reading a letter which Diddle Chip-Chip, the sparrow boy postman, had just left. "This is something new."

"What is it?" asked Nurse Jane Fussy Wuzzy, the lady muskrat housekeeper. "Here's an invitation from the lady mouse teacher for me to come to the hollow stump school Monday and watch the animal children draw picture on the blackboard. They do it very nicely, she says."

"Shall you go?" asked Nurse Jane. "I think I shall," answered Uncle Wiggly. "I like pictures, moving ones. On Monday afternoon, which was the time set in the letter sent to Uncle Wiggly from the lady mouse teacher, the bunny uncle, with his tall silk hat, and his red coat and blue striped rheumatism crutch, went to the hollow stump school."

He was half way there, when all of a sudden, he heard a rather loud and sharp voice calling:

"Fish-hook! Fish-hook! Fish-hook!" "Ha! That can't be any of the animal boys going fishing, can it?" said Uncle Wiggly out loud. "It is much too early for that!"

"Indeed it is," was the answer from somewhere in a tree over the bunny rabbit's head. "It was I who called."

"And who are you?" asked Uncle Wiggly.

"A blue jay bird," was the answer. "I am one of the early arrivals of spring, and fish hook is one of my calls. My friends and I just came from down south. I was looking about for something with which to build a nest, but my leg is caught in a tangle of string—kittie cord I think it is—and I can't get loose."

"Oh allow me to help you!" said Uncle Wiggly politely. "All you need to do is to pull the string from under that tree you are caught in. It will fall gently on this bed of moss, and then I'll bite loose the string from you."

"How kind of you!" cried the blue jay, whose feathers were a most beautiful color. "Go with his strong teeth, just made for gnawing down small trees of the kind the bird was in, the rabbit gentleman, he pulled the string down gently, the blue jay not being harmed at all, and then Uncle Wiggly bit through the tangle of string and the early spring bird was free."

"Thank you kindly, Uncle Wiggly," said the jay. "If ever I can do you or your friends a favor I shall be most happy."

tree," said the lady mouse, and the little puppy dog boy, with some brown chalk marks on the blackboard trunk and branches of a big tree.

"And, Nannie Wagtail, you may put green leaves on the tree," said the lady mouse.

The little goat girl did this, using a piece of green chalk in her front hoof. Then Jillie Longtail, the little mouse girl, made the green grass on the ground with more green chalk. For she could only reach to the bottom of the blackboard. And then the lady mouse teacher said:

"Now Jackie Kinkviall, our nice little monkey boy, will draw some blue flowers for the picture. And make them as nice as you can for Uncle Wiggly, Jackie."

"But Jackie never left his seat. He just sat still."

"Why, Jackie?" cried the surprised lady mouse teacher. "Don't you want to draw blue flowers in the picture for Uncle Wiggly?"

"Yes, I do," said the monkey boy. "But I lost my blue chalk down a crack in the floor, and I can't get it out, dear!"

"Oh, dear! That is too bad!" said the teacher. "And there isn't another bit of blue chalk in the whole school! What shall we do? The picture will be spoiled without the blue flowers!" And then a voice outside cried:

"Fish-hook! Fish-hook! Fish-hook! I'll give you some of my blue feathers and you can dip them in water and make the water blue and then you can dip white chalk in the blue water and color that blue, and then you can draw blue flowers!" and in through the window flew the blue jay bird Uncle Wiggly had looked from the string.

"Oh, you kind bird!" cried the lady mouse, happy like.

Uncle Wiggly was kind to me, so I'll be kind to you," whisked the bird, pulling out a loose tail feather. "It is much too early for that!"

Then Uncle Wiggly made blue chalk from the blue feather, the picture was finished when Jackie Kinkviall drew in the blue flowers and everybody was happy.

And if the bee man doesn't forget to leave some lollypops for the rag dolls moving picture party I'll tell you next Monday about the picture and the pussies—Copyright, 1917, by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.

### Max Weber, Fighter For Mexican Irrigationists Close Friend of Ministers In Old Diaz Cabinet

By J. D. PONDOR.

Max Weber, German vice consul in Juarez, who died in El Paso Thursday morning, exerted an influence on this border for 20 years and El Paso cannot forget that it was mainly through his efforts that the Mexican government filed its claim of \$20,000,000 against the United States to indemnify Mexican citizens in the valley below Juarez for losses sustained by being deprived of the use of the waters of the Rio Grande through the operations of irrigation companies in Colorado and New Mexico. The Mexican claim was based on the rights of Mexican citizens to riparian rights of the Rio Grande who had used the waters of the river a century before agricultural development began in Colorado.

Advocate of Mills Dam. In conjunction with Capt. Juan S. Hart and C. B. Morehead, Mr. Weber was an earnest advocate of what was known as the Mills dam, an international dam proposed by Gen. Anson Mills, to be erected just above this city to conserve the flood waters of the Rio Grande for the restoration of the riparian rights of the planters of the El Paso and Juarez valleys.

But New Mexico and Colorado then entered the last as champions for the Elephant Butte project and the fight between El Paso and New Mexico became very bitter. However, in 1902, when the international irrigation congress met in El Paso government influences brought the El Paso and New Mexico interests together and an agreement was reached whereby El Paso was to support the Elephant Butte project, provided it was built by the government and the rights of Mexico and the El Paso Valley were properly safeguarded.

It was Mexico's claim, though, which eventually won the fight for El Paso, and it was Max Weber who worked day and night among the property owners of the Mexican valley to get their claims in shape to go to the Mexican government.

Anyways, the Mexican claim resulted in a treaty being negotiated between the two countries and under which the United States became pledged to build the dam at Elephant Butte and to give Mexico its share of the water conserved by the dam, and thus the water users of the New Mexico and El Paso valleys were given control of the distribution of the waters in their respective territories and given time in which to pay for the dam and irrigation ditches.

Weber, Loyal German. Mr. Weber never became a citizen of this country, but held fast to his allegiance to Germany. He was a loyal, patriotic subject of the emperor and never hesitated to proclaim the same. If he boasted of superiority to the German government and people, all other governments and peoples on earth, it may be attributed to his excessive zeal for his emperor and his love for his fatherland.

Deaths among persons of prominence are dreaded for the next few weeks, when a financier, a scientist and an author may end brilliant careers. The secret believe that this Orieht held a danger for the United States and give warning that the event of tragic import may take place. After March, president Wilson may expect a great deal of popularity that will mean death to the nation before 1918.

Persons whose birthdate is 1 have the augury of travel and change. Those who are employed should be careful. Children born on this day may be too fond of winning friends. These subjects of Aries often are natural leaders. Mars is their principal ruling planet. Copyright, 1917, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.

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matter, from close advisers of president Diaz.

English Company Attempts Claim. An English company had secured from the secretary of the interior at Washington a permit to build a dam and reservoir at Elephant Butte. The same company and its stockholders in this company secured options on many acres of land under the dam in New Mexico. If this enterprise had been carried through it would have deprived the people of this valley of any voice in the control and distribution of the waters of the Rio Grande. The English company would have had absolute control of all waters for the irrigation of the Rio Grande valley from Kincaid to Fort Quitova, Texas.

U. S. Enjoins the English. It was to avoid such a condition that the Mills dam was projected. But the appeals from the people of this valley availed naught and not until the Mexican claim came to the front did the government at Washington call a halt to the English company's enterprise. It was a long fight and Max Weber was constantly on the firing line. The government enjoined the English company.

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Monday, March 26, 1917. ACCORDING to astrology this is not a fortunate day, for Mars, Mercury, Saturn and the sun are in evil aspect during the hours of work. Late in the evening Saturn changes to kindly role. It is a day in which menace to business may be strongly felt, especially where market or was reports have influence. Some sort of excitement concerning the military is strongly presaged by the

## Abe Martin



Th' banquet at Melodone hall last night was a huge success, 'cept they were one baked p'tater short. Th' hardest blow some folks ever git is when they finally realize that there's a few things they'll have t' miss.

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## Short Snatches From Everywhere

It seems that the car made one visiting trip too many to the front—Detroit Free Press.

Bravely, but not getting behind the president" is to attack from the rear—Philadelphia North American.

Some women are willing to join any kind of an improvement society that plays bridge—Kansas City Journal.

And if Mexico does take Texas there ought to be an ironclad understanding that she won't be allowed to crawlfish out of taking representatives Oscar Cal-lawny along with it—Macon Telegraph.

## HOGWALLOW LOCALS

By GEORGE BINGHAM

Yam Sims has a new suit of clothes. Until it wears down to normal he will rank as one of our most natty young men.

Jefferson Potlocks, who left here during the cold spell some time ago for the

Calif Hills neighborhood after a jug of molasses, reports a safe return. His wife did not get uneasy about him as a person cannot hurry molasses in cold weather.

The Rye Straw Store is preparing to launch its regular spring and summer sale of fall and winter bargains.

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## --- HOROSCOPE ---

Sunday, March 25, 1917.

PLANETARY direction for this day is read as rather unimportant. Jupiter is strongest in benefic influence, while Mars, Mercury and the sun are slightly helpful. Neptune and Venus are adverse.

There is a most threatening sign for travel or transportation by water. A naval disaster or the loss of a ship is indicated.

Under this government of the stars military affairs are subordinated to the navy, which is subject to a sign promising honors and changes for commanders or high officers. There is a sign read as a great national surprise.

Love affairs come under a way believed to be exceedingly disappointing. Again there is a sign that in some way affects marriage customs.

Writing of every sort is well aspected under this configuration. Some news announcement should cause public rejoicing.

Advertising continues under a sign that presages the greatest success.

The west has the prophecy of great and sudden growth owing to events of a sensational character.

Women come into a rule of the planets, which promises for them extremes of experience. A revolution against the growing tendency toward license and extravagance is foreshadowed.

There is a prognostication that a river or other waterway will be much in the public mind within the next few weeks.

A drop in prices of food is foretold, but this may merely precede increased cost of living.

Persons whose birthdate it is have the forecast of a happy and prosperous year. Those who are employed should be fortunate.

Children born on this day should have fair fortunes. These subjects of Aries often have exceedingly keen minds and independent characters. Copyright, 1917, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.

## EL PASO HERALD

DEDICATED TO THE SERVICE OF THE PEOPLE, THAT NO GOOD CAUSE SHALL LACK A CHAMPION, AND THAT EVIL SHALL NOT THRIVE UNOPPOSED.

H. D. Slater, editor and controlling owner, has directed The Herald for 19 years. J. C. Wilmarth is Manager and G. A. Martin is News Editor.

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